

06/10/07

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(via Email)
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DATE: June 10, 2007

FILE NO: 1-773180-000

RE: Upper Columbia River (UCR) Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
(RI/FS) - Progress Report No. 11 Month Ending May 2007

Pursuant to Paragraph 39 of the June 2, 2006 Settlement Agreement (Agreement), the following is intended to provide a summary of the activities completed during the past month in compliance with the aforementioned Agreement. It is also intended to provide a brief summary of pending and on-going activities.

As outlined within the Progress Report No. 10, efforts to compile and summarize discussion items from the April 17-19, 2007 meetings conducted in Seattle, Washington have been undertaken. At the time of writing, a draft version of the plenary sessions has been submitted to EPA for review and comment. Based on discussions during weekly project calls, it is anticipated that revisions will be required. In addition to the plenary session summary, TCAI and EPA co-chairs for individual break-out sessions (i.e., aquatic, terrestrial, transport & fate, and human health sessions) have been working together to ensure that the break-out session summaries are comprehensive and accurate. Upon finalizing the aforementioned summary materials, a complete April 2007 summary package will be provided to EPA and participating parties¹. It is anticipated that the summary package will include copies of PowerPoint presentations made during the meeting, a summary of the questions and answers discussed during the plenary sessions, a summary of discussion items recorded within the individual break-out sessions, and photo documentation of notes/drawings recorded during the meeting. It is anticipated that this package will be made available within the month of June 2007.

At the time of writing, additional comments on the draft RI/FS work plan are pending. As a result, efforts associated with revising the draft RI/FS work plan have focused on

¹ Participating parties include the Department of Interior, State of Washington Department of Ecology, the Spokane Tribe of Indians, and the Confederated Tribe of the Colville Reservation.



drafting responses to individual comments received to date. Where comments were identified as being ambiguous or requiring additional clarification (e.g., Comment No. 111 – “*It would be useful to include a figure that shows the location of these sampling stations.*”), TCAI and its Technical Team have requested and received additional information on such matters and are presently evaluating the additional information/clarification(s).

In addition and where appropriate, potential revisions to the draft RI/FS work plan are also being evaluated. These considerations where appropriate, have focused on the following sections of the draft RI/FS work plan: Section 3 (*Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements*), Section 4 (*Consideration of Potential Chemical, Physical and Biological Stressors to the UCR*), Section 5 (*Summary of Previous Investigations*), Section 6 (*Conceptual Site Models*), and Section 8 (*Remedial Investigation Approach*). Potential revisions to the draft RI/FS work plan include deferral of data evaluation and conclusions until more appropriate RI/FS reports such as the baseline ecological risk assessment (BERA) work plan and/or individual sampling and analysis plans. It should also be noted that since submitting the draft RI/FS work plan in December 2006 additional data (e.g., sediment and porewater) collected by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)² has become available, and is also be evaluated for inclusion into the revised RI/FS work plan.

To ensure that appropriate and applicable benchmarks as discussed during the April meeting are being incorporated into the screening level risk assessment (SLERA), TCAI and EPA are reviewing and discussing the proposed benchmarks. Upon receiving confirmation that the proposed benchmarks are appropriate, efforts to complete the SLERA will once again resume.

A summary of activities (e.g., deliverables) completed to date, and those anticipated within in the near future, are presented within Table 1 below.

Table 1. Upper Columbia River Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Summary of On-Going and Planned Activities

Task No.	Task Description	Status	Issues	Estimated Completion Date ¹
1.	2005 Field Data Transfer	Complete	None to report at this time	<u>July 31, 2006</u>
2.	Technical Memorandum ² .	Complete	None to report at this time	<u>October 27, 2006</u>
3.	Draft RI/FS Work Plan	Complete	None to report at this time	<u>December 28, 2006</u>
4.	Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) ³ .	Complete	None to report at this time	<u>February 26, 2007</u>

Table continues

² Earlier this year the USGS released the following report: Paulson, A.J., Wagner, R.J., Sanzolone, R.F., and Cox, S.E., 2006. *Concentrations of elements in sediments and selective fractions of sediments, and in natural waters in contact with sediments from Lake Roosevelt, Washington*. September 2004: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2006-1350, 84 p.

Table 1 cont.

Task No.	Task Description	Status	Issues	Estimated Completion Date
5.	Health and Safety Plan	Complete	None to report at this time	<u>February 26, 2007</u>
6.	Cultural Resources Coordination Plan	Complete	None to report at this time	<u>February 26, 2007</u>
7.	Revised RMAO Memorandum ⁴	Complete	None to report at this time	<u>March 11, 2007</u>
8.	Additional Trail Data	Complete	None to report at this time	<u>May 6, 2007</u> ⁵
9.	April Meeting Summary	On-Going	None to report at this time	June 2007
10.	Screening Level ERA	On-Going	None to report at this time	TBD
11.	Surface Water SAP ⁶	Temporarily Delayed	None to report at this time	TBD

- Notes:
1. Dates that have been underlined represent the actual day that the respective deliverable was submitted to EPA as per Paragraph 80 of the Agreement.
 2. As outlined within the Agreement, the technical memorandum outlines and described the Risk-Based Remedial Objectives for the Ecological Risk Assessment. Remedial objectives for the protection of human health will be prepared by EPA and submitted under separate cover at a later date.
 3. The SAP submitted in fulfillment of Paragraph 13 of the Agreement was the *2007 Sediment Investigation of Beaches and Depositional Areas*.
 4. The draft technical memorandum on risk-based management action objectives (RMAOs) is to be revised per EPA's January 16, 2007 comments.
 5. Following a request outlined by EPA in a letter dated February 1, 2007 (received on February 5, 2007) TCAI has compiled additional information on the Trail Facility so as to assist in the identification of contaminants of potential concern (COPCs) as outlined within Paragraph 24 of the Agreement. An electronic version of the deliverable was forwarded to EPA on May 6, 2007 with hard copies delivered shortly thereafter. In addition, a second deliverable identified as "*Business Confidential*" information was submitted to EPA legal counsel under separate cover on May 7, 2007 by Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman (i.e., TCAI legal counsel) on behalf of TCAI.
 6. Activities to complete this task have been temporarily delayed based on feedback/inputs from the April 17-19, 2007 meeting with EPA and participating parties. It is important that the key elements of the draft RI/FS work plan and screening level benchmarks be agreed upon prior to finalizing the respective task.
 7. ERA = Ecological Risk Assessment
SAP = Sampling & Analysis
TBD = To Be Determined

Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 509-892-2585.